

CURVE NUMBER AND GROUNDWATER RECHARGE CREDITS FOR LID FACILITIES IN NEW JERSEY

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Putting the LID on Stormwater Management, 2004



Dewberry

Introduction

- The State of New Jersey has been trying to encourage implementation of Low Impact Development (LID).
- At the same time, the state is requiring that the post-development groundwater recharge volumes must match those of the pre-development natural conditions
- Developers expect some sort of credit for utilizing LID practices in form of:
 - A size reduction for the traditional stormwater facilities
 - Credit towards satisfying post-development groundwater recharge requirements.
- In the absence of any existing methods, this study was conducted to develop simple ways to quantify LID benefits in New Jersey.

What LID Benefits can be Quantified?

- LID practices seem to be generally ineffective in controlling the large design peak flow rates.

- LID practices may be effective in:
 1. Controlling the runoff volume
 2. Providing groundwater recharge.

Runoff Volume Benefits Quantified

- Simple equations and charts were developed to evaluate credit in terms of Curve Number (CN) reduction for two cases:
 - The first case involves diversion of impervious area runoff to a LID facility potentially resulting into a reduction of the CN of the impervious area.
Examples: Rooftop Runoff to a dry well; Parking lot runoff to a vegetated buffer strip.
 - The second case involves a small LID such as a bioretention facility within a drainage area potentially decreasing the effective CN value of the drainage area.

NJ Curve Number Credit Equations for Deep Infiltration LID-IMPs

Notation:

P: Design Precipitation Depth (in),

A_{LID} : The Surface Area of the LID-IMP (sq.ft),

A_{IMP} : The Area of the Impervious Surface Connected tot the LID-IMP (sq.ft),

Q_r : Revised Runoff Depth (in),

d = Depth of the LID-IMP (in),

VR = Void Ratio of the Fill Material in LID-IMP,

CN_r = Revised CN of the Impervious Area Connected to the LID-IMP.

Equations:

$$Q_r = \{ (P-0.0408)^2 / (P+0.1632) \} - (d \text{ VR } (A_{LID}/A_{IMP}))$$

$$CN_r = 100 / (0.5 P + Q_r - (1.25 P Q_r + Q_r^2)^{(0.5)} + 1)$$

Example:

Problem Statement

Find the revised CN for a 1500 sq.ft rooftop connected to a dry well with surface area of 15 sq.ft and depth of 12 ft. The well is filled with gravel with a void ratio of 0.33. The design 24-hr precipitation is 4.5 inches.

The expected infiltration depth in three days of operation (considering seepage from sides of the well) is 6 feet.

Solution

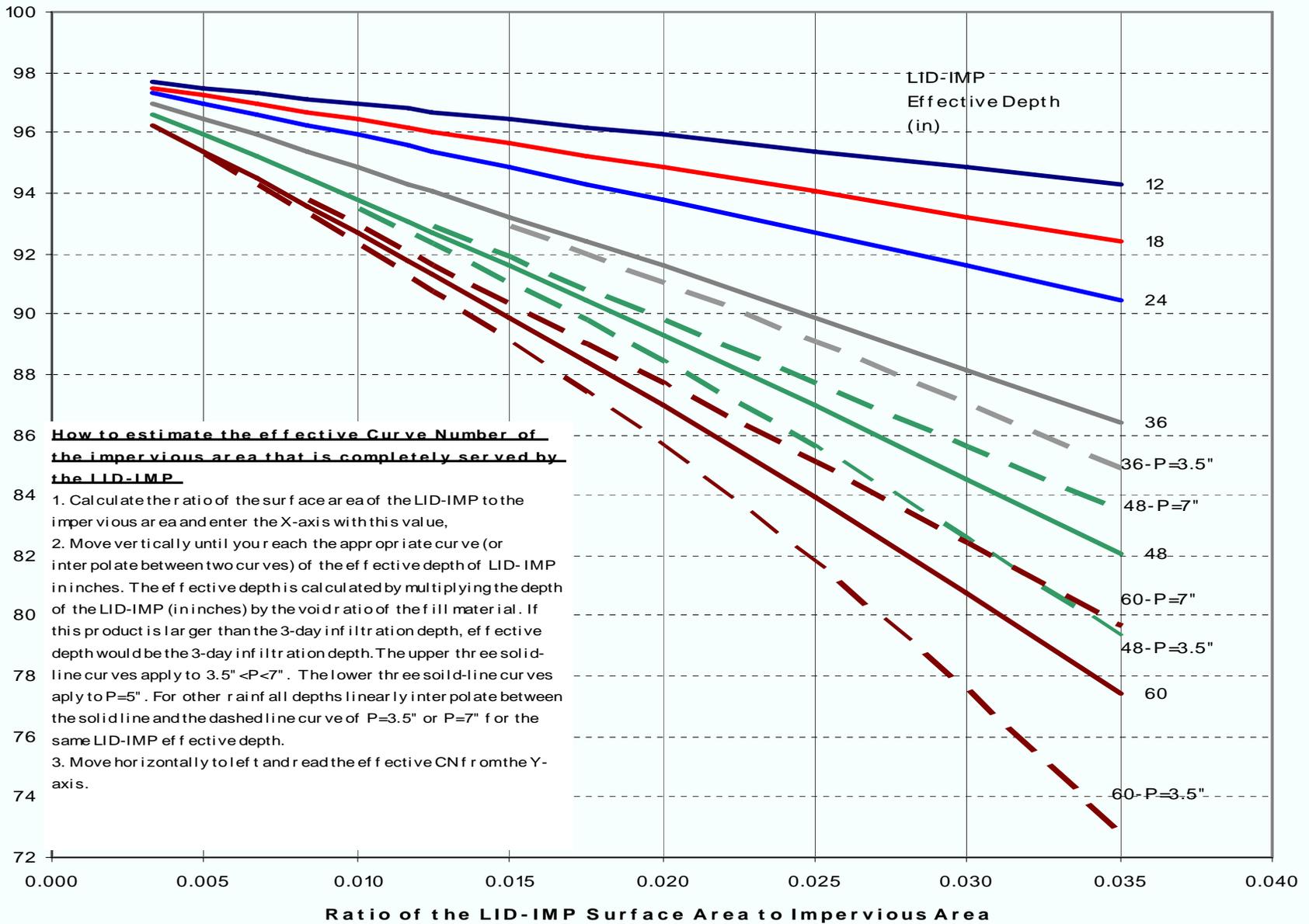
Because the expected infiltration depth (6 ft) is larger than well depth multiplied by void ratio (4 ft) the effective depth is not restricted by 3-day infiltration depth.

$$Q_r = \{ (4.5-0.0408)^2 / (4.5+0.1632) \} - (12 \times 12 \times 0.33 \times (15/1500)) = 3.79 \text{ inches}$$

$$CN_r = 100 / (0.5 \times 4.5 + 3.79 - (1.25 \times 4.5 \times 3.79 + 3.79^2)^{(0.5)} + 1) = 93.76 \text{ use } 94.$$

First case

Diversion of
impervious
area runoff to
a LID facility



How to estimate the effective Curve Number of the impervious area that is completely served by the LID-IMP.

1. Calculate the ratio of the surface area of the LID-IMP to the impervious area and enter the X-axis with this value,
2. Move vertically until you reach the appropriate curve (or interpolate between two curves) of the effective depth of LID-IMP in inches. The effective depth is calculated by multiplying the depth of the LID-IMP (in inches) by the void ratio of the fill material. If this product is larger than the 3-day infiltration depth, effective depth would be the 3-day infiltration depth. The upper three solid-line curves apply to $3.5" < P < 7"$. The lower three solid-line curves apply to $P=5"$. For other rainfall depths linearly interpolate between the solid line and the dashed line curve of $P=3.5"$ or $P=7"$ for the same LID-IMP effective depth.
3. Move horizontally to left and read the effective CN from the Y-axis.

NJ Curve Number Credit Equations for Small LID-IMPs

Notation:

P: Design Precipitation Depth (in),

A_{LID}: The Surface Area of the LID-IMP (sq.ft),

A: The Area of the Lot (sq.ft),

Q_r: Revised Runoff Depth (in),

d = Depth of the LID-IMP (in),

CN = Post-development CN without the LID-IMP.

CN_r = Revised CN of the lot with the LID-IMP.

Equations:

$$Q_r = \{ (P - 0.2 (1000/CN - 10))^2 / (P + 0.8 * (1000/CN - 10)) \} - (d (A_{LID}/A_{IMP}))$$

$$CN_r = 100 / (0.5 P + Q_r - (1.25 P Q_r + Q_r^2)^{0.5}) + 1$$

Example Applications

Example A

Find the revised CN for a 1-ac lot with the post development CN of 85 considering the effects of a two 6-inch-deep bioretention ponds with a combined surface area of 300 sq.ft. The design 24-hr precipitation is 4.5 inches.

Solution

$$Q_r = \{ (4.5 - 0.2 (1000/85 - 10))^2 / (4.5 + 0.8 * (1000/85 - 10)) \} - (6 (300 / (1.0 * 43560))) = 2.83 \text{ inches}$$

$$CN_r = 100 / (.5 * 4.5 + 2.83 - (1.25 * 4.5 * 2.83 + 2.83^2)^{0.5}) + 1 = 84.1 \text{ use } 84.$$

Example B

What if the same ponds were built in a 1/2-acre lot with a post-development CN of 75 and a design 24-hr rainfall of 3 inches?

Solution

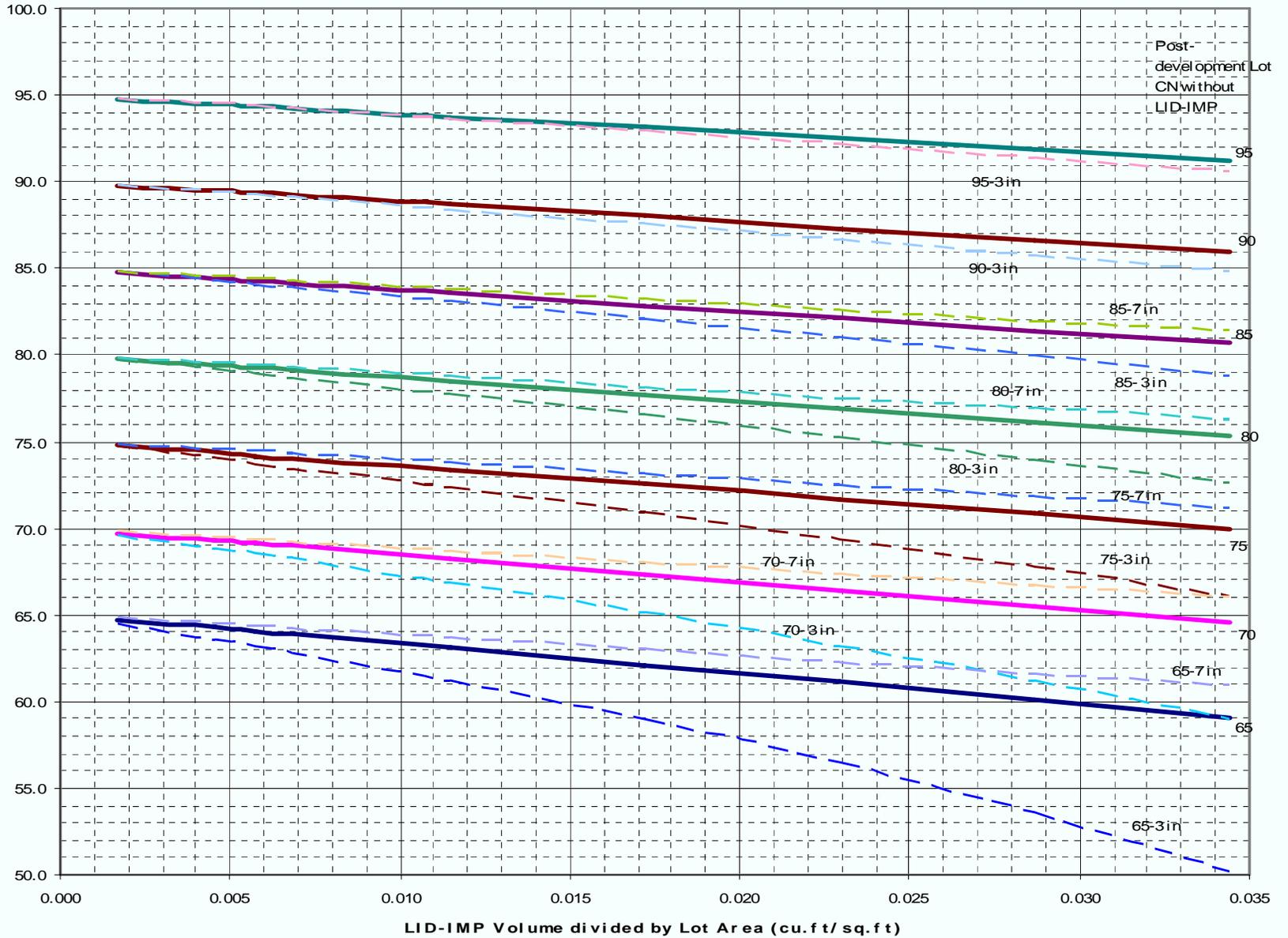
$$Q_r = \{ (3 - 0.2 (1000/75 - 10))^2 / (3 + 0.8 * (1000/75 - 10)) \} - (6 (300 / (0.5 * 43560))) = 0.88 \text{ inches}$$

$$CN_r = 100 / (.5 * 3 + 0.88 - (1.25 * 3 * 0.88 + 0.88^2)^{0.5}) + 1 = 73.4 \text{ use } 73.$$

Second case

a small LID
within a
drainage area

LID-IMP Lot CN Credit



Guide to the LID-IMP CN Credit for the Drainage Basin

This chart shows the effect of one (or more) small LID-IMP in reduction of the effective CN of the drainage basin. The revised CN may be used in runoff volume and peak flow rate calculations.

To use this chart first enter the X-axis by the ratio of the LID-IMP volume to the lot area. Then move vertically up to reach the curve that represents the CN of the lot under post-development conditions not considering the LID-IMP (you may have to interpolate between curves for your CN value). The curves shown in solid lines were generated for a design 24-hr rainfall depth of 5 inches. Curves in broken line are for 3- and 7-inch rainfalls. For CN s 90 and above, the 7-inch curves are not given meaning that the 5-inch curve applies to the 5 to 7 inch rainfall depths. For your 24-hr design rainfall depth, you may need to interpolate between the curves for 3 to 5-inch or 5- to 7-inch . Once you select a point on the curve (or between curves) move horizontally to left and read the revised CN of the lot from the Y-axis.

Example Applications of the Chart

Example A

Find the revised CN for a 1-ac lot with the post development CN of 85 considering the effects of a two 6-inch deep bioretention ponds with a combined surface area of 300 sq.ft. The design 24-hr precipitation is 4.5 inches.

The LID-IMP volume to lot area ratio in this case would be :

$(300 \times (6/12)) / (43560) = 0.0035$; entering the X-axis at the value of 0.0035 and moving

vertically up to slightly below the solid line curve (5-inch curve) for CN of 85 and moving

horizontally left we can read from the Y-axis a value of 84.3. So the revised CN of 84 can be used.

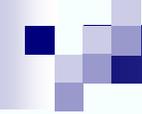
Example B

What if the same ponds were built on a 1/2-acre lot with a post-development CN of 75 and a design 24-hr rainfall of 3 inches?

In this case the X-axis value would be 0.007. Using the "75-3 in" curve, the revised CN would be 73.4 so use 73.

Groundwater Recharge Benefits Quantified

- The New Jersey stormwater management regulations require the post-development annual groundwater recharge volumes match those of the pre-development conditions.
- A comprehensive method was developed to allow calculation of pre- and post-development recharge volumes in New Jersey.
- Based on that study a simple nomograph was developed that would enable estimation of the annual groundwater recharge volume provided by an infiltration facility receiving runoff from an impervious area operating at near 100% recharge efficiency.



NJ Recharge Spreadsheet

Annual Recharge Page

- Estimation of Annual Recharge Deficit under Post-development Conditions (based on GSR-32)

BMP Calculations Sheet

- Recharge Operation and Efficiency Calculations and BMP or LID-IMP Design

The New Jersey Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual

February 2004

If you have any question or comments on the content of this Manual, please e-mail your questions and comments to: swbmpmanual@dep.state.nj.us

Chapters

- **Chapter One: Impacts of Development on Runoff** discusses the impact of development on the quality and quantity of stormwater runoff.
- **Chapter Two: Low Impact Development Techniques** provides information how to use structural and nonstructural to provide lower impact development.
- **Chapter Three: Regional and Municipal Stormwater Management Plans** presents guidance on the development of regional and municipal stormwater management plans.
- **Chapter Four: Stormwater Pollutant Removal Criteria** provides guidance on how to meet the water quality performance standards.
- **Chapter Five: Computing Stormwater Runoff Rates and Volumes** presents the mathematical methods for the stormwater runoff rates, volumes, and the stormwater quality and quantity design storms. This chapter provides information computations for unconnected impervious areas, and also contains an overview of various stormwater pollutant loading models.
- **Chapter Six: Groundwater Recharge** discusses the groundwater recharge methodology, the groundwater recharge design storm, and the details of the New Jersey Groundwater Recharge Spreadsheet (NJGRS).
 - [Download the NJGRS in Excel 97 format](#)
 - [Download the NJGRS in Excel 2002 format](#)
- **Chapter Seven: Landscaping** provides information on vegetation and landscaping for stormwater management measures.
- **Chapter Eight: Maintenance and Retrofit of Stormwater Management Measures** provides information to be included and considered in a maintenance plan, and discusses retrofit of stormwater management facilities.
- **Chapter Nine:** provides general information on **Structural Stormwater Management Measures**
 - [Chapter 9.1 Standard for Bioretention Systems](#)
 - [Chapter 9.2 Standard for Constructed Stormwater Wetlands](#)
 - [Chapter 9.3 Standard for Dry Wells](#)
 - [Chapter 9.4 Standard for Extended Detention Basins](#)
 - [Chapter 9.5 Standard for Infiltration Basins](#)
 - [Chapter 9.6 Standard for Manufactured Treatment Devices](#)
 - [Chapter 9.7 Standard for Pervious Paving Systems](#)
 - Chapter 9.8 Standard for Rooftop Vegetated Cover (reserved)
 - [Chapter 9.9 Standard for Sand Filters](#)
 - [Chapter 9.10 Standard for Vegetative Filters](#)
 - [Chapter 9.11 Standard for Wet Ponds](#)
- **Appendix A: Low Impact Development Checklist** provides information to assist reviewers and designers in the demonstration that nonstructural stormwater management measures have been implemented in a project.
- **Appendix B: Municipal Regulations Checklist** provides information to assist municipalities in incorporating nonstructural stormwater management measures into the master plan, land use and zoning ordinances.
- **Appendix C: Sample Municipal Stormwater Management Plan** provides an example as well as guidance on the municipal plan required to be developed by every municipality.
- **Appendix D: DRAFT Model Municipal Stormwater Control Ordinance for Municipalities** provides a sample stormwater ordinance consistent with the requirements of the Stormwater Management Rules.

NJ Recharge Spreadsheet

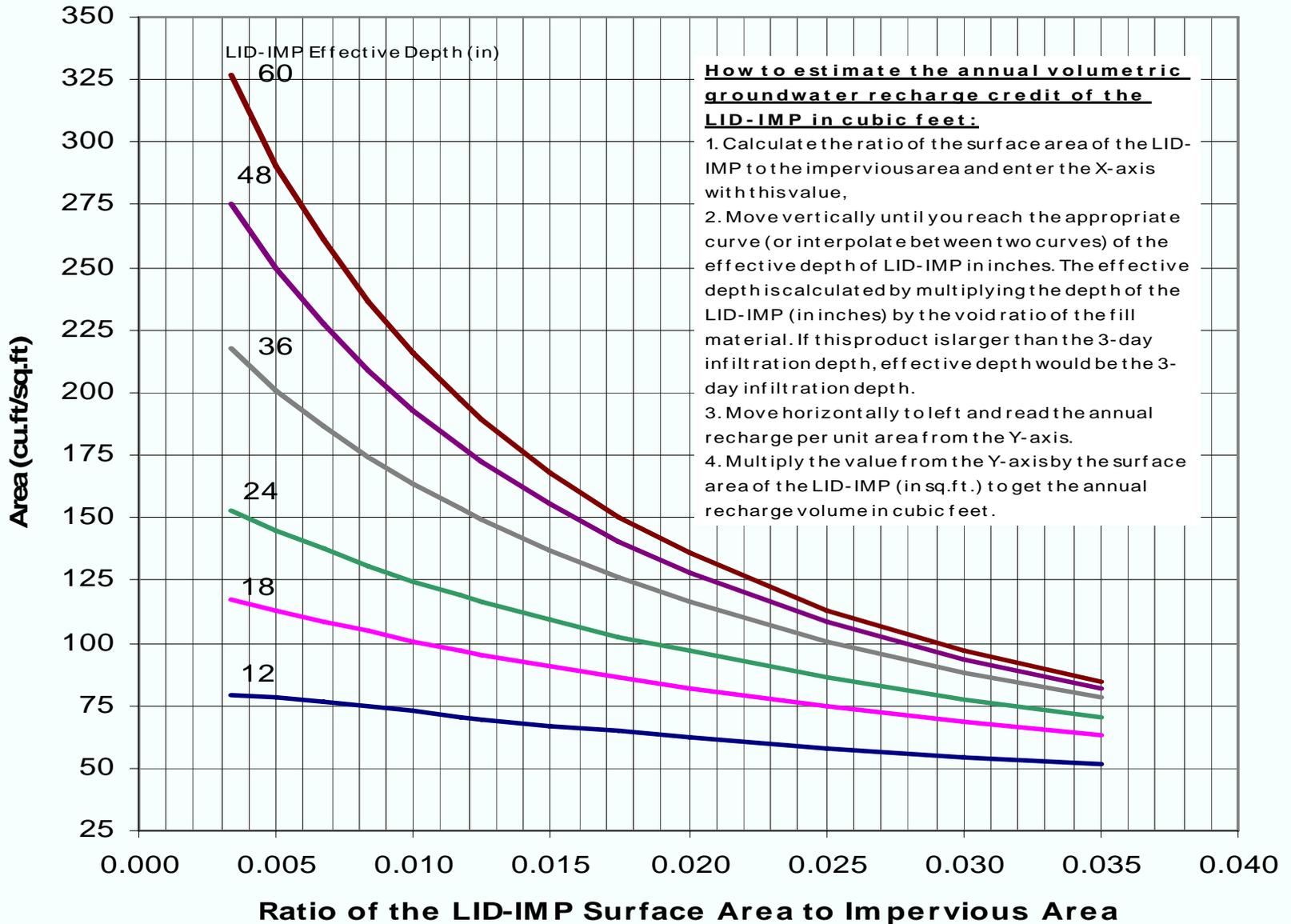
Screen Capture from the Recharge Deficit Page

New Jersey Groundwater Recharge Spreadsheet Version 2.0 November	Annual Groundwater Recharge Analysis (based on GSR-32)			Project Name: Sample Project	
	Select Township ↓			Description: This is a test application	
	MIDDLESEX CO., PERTH AMBOY CITY			Analysis Date: 09/01/03	
Pre-Developed Conditions					
Land Segment	Area (acres)	TR-55 Land Cover	Soil	Annual Recharge (in)	Annual Recharge (cu.ft)
1	1.4	Open space	Woodstown	12.9	65,498
2	0.3	Gravel, dirt	Woodstown	6.9	7,536
3	3.5	Woods-grass combination	Woodstown	13.5	171,255
4	1.4	Open space	Keyport	13.4	68,146
5	0.5	Gravel, dirt	Keyport	7.5	13,657
6	3.3	Woods-grass combination	Keyport	13.9	165,963
7	0				
8	0				
9	0				
10	0				
11	0				
12	0				
13	0				
14	0				
15	0				
Total =	10.4				
Procedure to fill the Pre-Development and Post-Development Co					
For each land segment, first enter the area, then select TR-55 Land Cover, then select Soil. Start from the top of the table and proceed downward. Don't leave blank rows (with A=0) in between your segment entries. Rows with A=0 will not be displayed or used in calculations. For impervious areas outside of standard lots select "Impervious Areas" as the Land Cover. Soil type for impervious areas are only required if an infiltration facility will be built within these areas.					
Select Soil Select the Soil from the List. If the TR-55 Land Cover is "Impervious areas" soil does not matter and will not show up and recharge will be set to zero for that segment. Also, hydric soils produce zero recharge.					
Post-Developed Conditions					
Land Segment	Area (acres)	TR-55 Land Cover	Soil	Annual Recharge (in)	Annual Recharge (cu.ft)
1	1.5	Impervious areas	Keyport	0.0	-
2	1.6	Gravel, dirt	Woodstown	6.9	40,191
3	3.65	Open space	Keyport	13.4	177,667
4	3.65	Open space	Woodstown	12.9	170,762
5	0				
6	0				
7	0				
8	0				
9	0				
10	0				
11	0				
12	0				
13	0				
14	0				
15	0				
Total =	10.4			Total Annual Recharge (in)	Total Annual Recharge (cu.ft)
Annual Recharge Requirements Calculation ↓				10.3	388,620
Pre-Developed Annual Recharge to Preserve =				100%	
Post-Development Annual Recharge Deficit=				103,435	(cubic feet)
Recharge Efficiency Parameters Calculations (area averages)					
RWC= 3.94 (in)		DRWC= 3.94 (in)			
ERWC= 0.93 (in)		EDRWC= 0.93 (in)			

Screen Capture from the BMP Design Page

Project Name		Description		Analysis Date		BMP or LID Type					
Sample Project		This is a test application		09/01/03							
Recharge BMP Input Parameters				Root Zone Water capacity Calculated Parameters				Recharge Design Parameters			
Parameter	Symbol	Value	Unit	Parameter	Symbol	Value	Unit	Parameter	Symbol	Value	Unit
BMP Area	ABMP	6656.0	sq.ft	Empty Portion of RWC under Post-D Natural Recharge	ERWC	0.93	in	Inches of Runoff to capture	Qdesign	0.54	in
BMP Effective Depth, this is the design variable	dBMP	5.2	in	ERWC Modified to consider dEXC	EDRWC	0.93	in	Inches of Rainfall to capture	Pdesign	0.67	in
Upper level of the BMP surface (negative if above ground)	dBMPu	-5.2	in	Empty Portion of RWC under Infiltr. BMP	RERWC	0.74	in	Recharge Provided Avg. over Imp. Area		19.0	in
Depth of lower surface of BMP, must be >= dBMPu	dEXC	0.0	in					Runoff Captured Avg. over imp. Area		24.8	in
Post-development Land Segment Location of BMP Input Zero if Location is distributed or undetermined	SegBMP	0	unitless								
Solve for ABMP to provide Vdef	Solve for dBMP to provide Vdef	Default Vdef & Aimp		BMP Calculated Size Parameters				CALCULATION CHECK MESSAGES			
				ABMP/Aimp	Aratio	0.10	unitless	Volume Balance-->	OK		
				BMP Volume	VBMP	2,873	cu.ft	dBMP Check-->	OK		
								dEXC Check-->	OK		
Parameters from Annual Recharge Worksheet				System Performance Calculated Parameters							
Post-D Deficit Recharge (or desired recharge volume)	Vdef	103,435	cu.ft	Annual BMP Recharge Volume		103,435	cu.ft	BMP Location-->	Location is selected as distri		
Post-D Impervious Area (or target Impervious Area)	Aimp	65,340	sq.ft	Avg BMP Recharge Efficiency		76.7%	Represents % Infiltration Recharged	OTHER NOTES			
Root Zone Water Capacity	RWC	3.94	in	%Rainfall became Runoff		78.3%	%	Pdesign is accurate only after BMP dimensions are updated to make rech v			
RWC Modified to consider dEXC	DRWC	3.94	in	%Runoff Infiltrated		66.2%	%	of BMP infiltration prior to filling and the area occupied by BMP are ignored i			
Climatic Factor	C-factor	1.53	no units	%Runoff Recharged		50.8%	%	sensitive to dBMP, make sure dBMP selected is small enough for BMP to			
Average Annual P	Pavg	47.8	in	%Rainfall Recharged		39.7%	%	Segment Location of BMP if you select "impervious areas" RWC will be min			
Recharge Requirement over Imp. Area	dr	19.0	in					the soil type and a shallow root zone for this Land Cover allowing consid			

Annual Recharge Volume per unit Area of the LID-IMP Surface



Conclusions

- Tools discussed in this paper help in quantifying the LID impacts. They can be used in assigning CN reduction and annual groundwater recharge credits.
- Sample calculations showed that under typical development scenarios several LID facilities per lot would be needed to have a considerable impact in reduction of runoff volumes and providing groundwater recharge.
- The groundwater recharge tools were specifically developed for the New Jersey conditions and data. However, the CN reduction tools may be used anywhere.